GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1965
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
Stalled NH Projects
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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highway projects presently stalled due to disputes;

(b) whether present guidelines on review of these projects has been relaxed to speed up the highway projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether concessions are proposed to be granted to concessionaries in case delay is not attributable to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with other steps taken/being taken to expedite the highway projects in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) No national highway (NH) projects are stalled due to disputes.

(b) to (e) Government has recently taken various policy measures to revive languishing/delayed NH projects. One of such is one time fund infusion to revive and physically complete languishing NH projects under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode that has achieved at least 50% physical completion as such infusion of moderate funding can quickly bring these projects to completion. This assistance will be provided by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) from its overall budget corpus on loan basis for a short tenure at Bank Rate +2%. After completion of construction of such projects on Built-Operate-Transfer (BOT)

(Toll) mode, the first charge on the toll receivables shall be ensured for NHAI. In case of projects on BOT (Annuity) mode, such loan will be recovered along with interest from the Annuities payable to the concessionaire. Further, Government has also permitted extension of concession period for languishing NH projects on BOT (Toll) mode for the period of delay not directly attributable to the concessionaire subject to the condition that tenure of the operation period would remain unchanged and the project has to be physically completed within the next three years. Similarly, payment of annuities corresponding to the actual period of delay not attributable to the concessionaire in case of languishing highways projects under BOT (Annuity) mode is also envisaged. Various steps have also been taken by the Government/ NHAI to remove the hurdles affecting the construction of NH projects includes streamlining of land acquisition and regulatory clearances, close coordination with other ministries, revamped Disputes Resolution Mechanism etc. NHAI has also decided not to award projects till all major pre-construction approvals are in-place for the project in order to avoid post bid delays and litigations.

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